

February 1990

The ACE



Pirate broadcast station Radio Garbanzo uses the slogan, "Nuts hell...we're beans." But research conducted by ACE member Don Bishop reveals that not only are garbanzos not nuts, they are not beans, either. They are chick peas. Whatever those are.

"Nuts hell...we're beans...er, chick peas." might be the better slogan. OK, maybe not. Never mind.

D I A L O G S

Editor: Kirk Baxter. Send loggings to: P.O.B. 11201, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66207. Deadline: 22nd of the month.

Welcome to the February 1990 Dialogs column. Radioactivity was up this last month, and I've got 8 pages of your loggings to present. Please make a note of our deadline for this column, as it is the 22nd of the month preceding the publication date. Please allow sufficient time for your letter to reach me. I don't want anyone to be disappointed if their loggings reach me after the A*C*E has already gone to press. ***** Last month's issue lacked Andrew Yoder's column thanks to the US Postal "Service" (what an oxymoron!) This month we have Andrew's column, plus some additional material that Andrew has sent. It looks like the announcement of the "bust" of WENJ was premature. While an article in Radio World gave the location of WENJ, it didn't specifically state that they had been busted. It would appear from the additional loggings of the station, that they are still in operation. ***** Gerry Dexter sends us information about "Short-wave Radio Week", which is March 12-18, 1990. He encourages everyone to get the media to cover radio this week, and publicize our hobby. ***** I hope to see some of you at the Winter SWL Festival in Kulpville, PA later this month. It sounds like an interesting event, and I've heard that several A*C*E'ers will be there! Also, the 1990 ANARC convention is planned for Virginia Beach, VA this fall. Watch these pages for full details and registration material.and now, on to the loggings.....

NORTH AMERICA - MEDIUM WAVE

KCFI: 1470, 12/27, *0300-0630, SIO=555. Hrd on portable & car radio. 2 UNID DJs, 1 male, 1 female, playing rock oldies, spoof ads & legit commercials from 1950's & 1960's. Annncd stn location of "Boulder." Exc sig quality, w/ obvious use of audio limiter & consistent high mod percentage. Last time hrd was in 1975! (BISHOP,KS)

WJDI: 1620, 12/4, 0303-0308*. Exc sig w/ rock mx. Dynamite as usual! My favorite! (SPOONER,MA) 1620, 12/11, 0402-0616*. Sig better than Boston 50KW stns. Pgming very professional w/ good reverb. Annncd 2.5kW. (SPOONER,MA) 1620, 12/17, 0350-0535. Annncmts of eqmt test. Ad for "No Roach." Cottekill, NY addr. Closed w/ Nat'l Anthem. QSO w/ op from WKND. Rock mx by Roy Orbison, Jerry & the Pacemakers, etc. (FULLER,MA) (D'ANGELO,PA) (RICHOLSON,VA) (SACHS,IL) (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS) 1620, 12/25, 0120-0356*. 2 Ome talking abt allocation of freqs, electronic media & gov't intervention. Funny ads & 50's mx. Parody for Hit 'n Run auto ins., crooked used car dealer, etc. Live TCs in EST. Said covered 20 states at night. (SMITH,NY) (ROSS,ONT)(ZELLER,OH)(ALLINSON,NC) 1620, 12/28, 0103-0131*. All new sound. ID as "Radio Free NY" w/ time & temp. New ads, incl Bob's Psychiatric Center. Welcome to all SWLs. Worst sig yet, despite annncd 2700 watts. Hvy rock & Elvis. Nat'l Anthem at s/off. (SACHS,IL)(ALLINSON,NC) 1620, 1/1, 0102-0211*. Usual format of rock & parody ads. "Hello" to recent reporters. Per call from op, this was to be final bcst for a while. Live show. QSLs to be forthcoming. New Year's show w/ top 40 & Grateful Dead. No-Roach Exterminator & Blown-Away Bob's Psychiatric Clinic spots. Possible xmtr probs. (RICHOLSON,VA) (ZELLER,OH) (ALLINSON,NC) (FULLER,MA) (SPOONER,MA) (SMITH,NY) 1620, 1/2, 0254-0258*. Caught end of pgm w/ Grateful Dead. Said would QSL soon. (ZELLER,OH) (SPOONER,MA)

NORTH AMERICA - SHORT WAVE

East Coast Pirate Radio: 15063, 12/23, 2039-2047, SIO=222. Rock mx. (ROSS,ONT) 15045, 12/25, 1916-1930*. Song "Burning Down the House," songs by Stones, Beatles, etc w/ ticking clock mx. (ROSS,ONT) (SACHS,IL) 15065, 12/31, 2020-2057*, SIO=333. Relay of KNBS Xmas show. (TROMP,MI) 15063.6, 1/7, 1916-1939*, SIO=252-. Var rock w/ 3 ID/addr annncmts by OM. Sig extremely weak & ID difficult, but definite. Some splatter de BBC on 15070. (ZELLER,OH) [Addr: POB 6527, Baltimore, MD 21219]

Eurosar Radio: 15005.3, 12/25, 0844-0900, SIO=251. Hrd nonstop mx incl songs "Seasons in the Sun" & Mary Hopkins' "Those Were the Days."

(PROVANCE,OH) 15005.3, 12/30, 9822-0829, SIO=151. Nonstop Beatles mx incl "Here, There and Everywhere," "Yellow Submarine" & "Paperback Writer." (PROVANCE,OH)

Hope Radio 16 (International): 7375, 12/9, 2215-2330*, SIO=444. MJ w/ secrets of SW espionage & Carlin album. (CONNOR,PA) 7415, 12/10, 0032-0130+. Repeat of 12/9 bcst. Talk abt #s stns; Carlin tonight. (ROSS,ONT)(CONNOR,PA) 7413, 12/10, 0050-0130. Usual DX feature including RNI & Carlin. (D'ANGELO,PA)(SMITH,TN) 7412, 12/10->11, 2306-0048*. Repeat of 12/9 plus Pirates Den & zodiac. MJ said he was trying to hook up w/ Outlaw X Drop. Bluegrass mx hrd from another stn in background. Horoscopes read. QRM splatter not as bad tonight. (CONNOR,PA) (SPOONER,MA) (D'ANGELO,PA) 7411.6, 12/12->13, 2316-0022, SIO=544. Now ID as HR Int'l. Jamming by another pirate. Best reception in USB. (RICHOLSON,VA) 7413, 12/16, 0324-0332, SIO=322. Various pirate loggings. Annncd Beaver Falls addr. (SMITH,TN) 7415, 12/17, 0304+, SIO=222. Buried by UTE QRM. Eddie Murphy hrd. (CONNOR,PA) 7416, 12/17, 2102-2255*. Read Dec. PopComm & Freedom Rock show. Wished everyone Merry Christmas. Co-channel interference by another pirate w/ bluegrass mx. Murphy & Carlin comedy. Said will be on 15.35 MHz in future. (SPOONER,MA) (CONNOR,PA) (RICHOLSON,VA) 7415, 12/18, 2115-2150, SIO=433. ID incl "non profit, non corporate radio." Gave pirate DX tips, many from Zeller's book. QRMd by stn playing country mx. (D'ANGELO,PA) 7375.6, 12/25, 0407-0440+, SIO=222. Vy weak Cosby/Pop Comm. (PROVANCE,OH) 7412.2, 12/26, 0225-0245, SIO=121. Talk abt other stns. Hvy QRM/M. Slight drift. (RYAN,MO) 7413, 12/27, 0208-0310+. Read Jan. PopComm. Cosby monologue. Partial QSL addr of Box 495, Lockheed FL as well as Beaver Falls addr. Usual, w/ jammer starting 0245 w/ profanity, rock mx & poorly sent CW. (FERDON,NC) (SACHS,IL) 7410, 12/31, 0306-0359*. DJ reading advice on pgming & production for other pirate ops. CW jammer at 0310. Cosby "Himself." (FULLER,MA) (SMITH,NY) (TROMP,MI) (RICHOLSON,VA) 7417, 1/1, *0458-0536+. Drifted lots. Info on preparing reception rpts. Mention of soldiers who died in Panama. Sitar IS. Usual Cosby, PopComm reading format. New addr of POB 495, Mossy Head, FL 32434 addr in addition to PA. Mentioned FL addr more reliable than PA. (TROMP,MI) (FERDON,NC) (PATTERSON,NC) (ZELLER,OH) (SACHS,IL) (ARRITT,KS) 7415, 1/8, 0316. Seemed to be interfered by WENJ. Tasteless spoof game show. (ARRITT,KS) 7424.8, 1/11, 0229-0250+, SIO=433. PopComm article on tropical bands. Talk of law & Constitution. In Pirates Den, said will rely less on PopComm, given 4-6 month delay, & rely instead on A*C*E, Pirate Pages & info sent directly to stn via Slanesville. (ZELLER,OH)

KNBS: 15052, 12/25, 1748-1816*. Well done show w/ Santa skits (not all nice). Pro-drug comments. Same show later at 1848+ on 7485. Lots of funny stuff. Hilarious Elvis holiday message at end. (TROMP,MI) (FERDON,NC) (SMITH,NY) 7410, 12/31, 0318-0340*, SIO=444. Test xmsn; very clear here. Asked for rpts & tapes - will get cannabis QSL & stn pennant. Said drug-free society is impossible as drugs have been around for all recorded history. (COLLINS,WI) 15063.9, 12/31, *2011-2057*, SIO=444. Best pirate pgm I've hrd for a while. Phil Muzik & Pot Seedy w/ nonstop comedy, mostly Xmas related. "Joy to the World, the Dope has Come." Dolly Parton & Burt Reynolds do nude jumping jacks, Fruit of the Loom News Briefs. Said America does not have a drug problem, it has a drug law problem. Wellsville addr. At QRT, relay ancmnt via East Coast Pirate Radio w/ Baltimore addr. Hrd "Frosty the Dope Man" & "Jingle Bells" w/ cats meowing. "The Night Before Christmas" by Garbanzo's Fearless Fred. Phil wished everyone a very Merry Juana & a Happy Hashish. ECPR relayed. "Bcsting from West Coast to anyone that will listen." (SACHS,IL) (FERDON,NC) (SMITH,NY) (COLLINS,WI) (FULLER,MA) (ZELLER,OH) (WOOD,OH) 7412, 1/1, *0317-0341*. Test xmsn w/ not as much drug talk. Wanted detailed rpts & recordings. Hrd Robert Palmer rock. New pgm w/ pro-dope mx incl "Addicted to Fudge" parody song. (TROMP,MI) (ALLINSON,NC) (SACHS,IL) (FERDON,NC) (FULLER,MA) (PATTERSON,NC) (SACHS,IL) 7411.4, 1/1, 0320-0341*, 7485, 1/6, 0250-0315*, Had "Hemph-Line" show w/ mentions of rpts from many ACE members. "Bcsting from Alcatraz." Song "Anti Social" (Anthrax). Ended w/ "Peace in Our Time" by Gorky Park. Carrier dropped mid-song. (TROMP,MI) (PATTERSON,NC)

La Voz de Gringo (Benigno) America: 7415.5, 12/26, 0025-0047*, SIO=444. 70's rock mx incl Springsteen & Lennon. ID by OM in SS: "Saludos, Amigos. Este es La Voz de Gringo America, transmite desde

America." (ROSS,ONT) 7415, 12/26, 0028-0048*, SIO=444. All mx, no annmts until end. Sounded good even though in LBN. No addr. (TROMP,MI) 7415 USB, 12/26, 0028. Hrd as Benigno. Hrd John Lennon's "Imagine." Annmts in SS w/ heavy Anglo accent. (ARRITT,KS)

Liberty Radio: 7416, 12/24, 0415-0440+, SIO=333. Xmas show of seasonal skits & songs. Sam Spade-ish Santa skit & Board of Directors discussing holiday profits. Anncr mike gain low. Hrd ID & Wellsville addr. Plenty of ute QRM toward end of show. (SMITH,NY)

Pirate Radio UK relayed by ECPR: 15063.4, 12/23, 2010+, SIO=433. Mx by British heavy metal bands w/ Monty Python's "Dennis Moore" skit interspersed. Anncd maildrop as PopComm or Monitoring Times. PSE QSL. (FERDON,NC) 15063.4, 12/23, 2027-2046*, SIO=242. Tnx Allen tip. Relay via ECPR. Various rock & clear IDs. At first, thought was Euroirate, but hrd relay ID of ECPR & Baltimore addr. Sig was weak, audible only w/ AGC off & gain cranked all the way up. Slight splatter de BBC on 15070. (ZELLER,OH)

RFM: 7415.9, 12/18, 0316-0323, SIO=333. Jazz mx & WV addr. (ROSS,ONT) 15050, 12/31, 1810-1854*. Test xmsn w/ FF/EE IDs & instrumental jazz mx. Anncd as int'l svc. Said would have exclusive coverage of Mike Tyson v. PeeWee Herman bout. (FERDON,NC) (ZELLER,OH) (TROMP,MI) (SACHS,IL) 15020, 1/1, 0005-0013+. Usual new age mx. So-called int'l svc started in FF & then into EE. (ALLINSON,NC) (PROVANCE,OH) [Slanesville addr, DJ is HV Short.]

Radio America: 7415.5, 12/26, 0022-0050, SIO=444. LSB. Very little talk; only 1 ID. Played Bob Dylan & John Lennon "Mind Games," then off. (RYAN,MO)

Radio Free Manuel Noriega: 7375.6, 12/30, 2158-2229*, SIO=454. QSO w/ Samurai Radio/R. USA. Suspect it was all from same QTH. Hilarious QSO. Bob Noriega (Manuel's brother) was xmtg to the Vatican where he was playing water polo w/ the Pope. Bob's xmtr fell into the pool & killed him, but revived to continue QSO. PSE QSL. (PROVANCE,OH)

Radio Free Willy: 7415, 1/21, 0050-0058, SIO=555. On after RNI. Dixieland jazz. Said to tune-in at 0200. Hrd "Dixie." Said were testing and regular pgm would begin at 0200. Mx "Closer Walk With Thee," followed by rock mx. (COLLINS,WI) (DEXTER,WI) (SACHS,IL) 7415, 1/21, 0205-0515*. Bout alg hrd in 2 1/2 yrs - an eye-popping S-20 in IL. Fair sig in GA. Spoof ads for fake Gucci Italian book bags. Squeezenart exercise machine. Mx by Hornbby, Jerry Lee Lewis, etc. Live show w/ many fake ads. Discussion of 1992 elections w/ Reagan or Quayle vs. Jesus. Said will QSL from somewhere if you contact all drops & bulletin boards. PSE QSL. "Hot Rod Lincoln" hrd. Hrd name Omar mentioned. Jomun for President skits. (WOOTEN,GA) (SACHS,IL) (COLLINS,WI) (BIGGS via ANARC BBS) (ARTHUR,NY via ANARC BBS) (HELMS,CA) (KINGMAN via ANARC BBS) (BAXTER,KS)

Radio Garbanzo: 7485, 12/17, 0150-0355, SIO=242. Barely there. Ads, Alvin the Chipmunk song. Off or faded out. (CONNOR,PA)

Radio Mexico: 7412, 12/24, 0253-0327. SS talk. Addr given both in EE & SS. Blasted at 0310 by CW #8. Possibly a spoof. Started w/ US rock, then to Latin mx. (TROMP,MI) (SMITH,NY) (RICHOLSON,VA) (PROVANCE,OH) (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS) 7425, 1/1, 0504-0545*. In SS w/ Latin traditional & pop mx. Had mike problems; fixed during bcst. Lots of Venezuelan mx & a few Mexican tunes. (PROVANCE,OH) (FERDON,NC) 7425, 1/1, *0600-0610*. Latin mx w/ SS annmts. Addr in EE & SS. (TROMP,MI) [Slanesville addr; incl 3 25 cent stamps.]

Radio New York International: 7415, 1/20, 2354-0030. Probable relay by R Free Willy due to almost identical sig. Gave LaGuardia Place, NY addr. (SACHS,IL) 7415, 1/20, 2356-0050, SIO=434. Great sig - 60's & 70's mx. Would begin regular bcsting on 8/1. Anncd several freqs but did not mention 7415. 1st test xmsn. Cut to Dr. Demento at 0030 courtesy of AM 1000. (COLLINS,WI) (ARTHUR via ANARC BBS)

Radio USA - Samurai R. simulcast: 7375.5, 12/30, 2110-2230*. Most talk by Mr. Blue Sky of R. USA, but many others in studio incl return of technical director "Ubie." Tips on upcoming pirate xmsns, both N Am

& Euro. Live UTC TCs. Anncd 50 watts & 7375 nominal freq. Punk rock mx. Eddie Current is DJ for Samurai R. Addr: Samurai to Slanesville, R. USA to Wellsville. Phony QSO de R. Free Manuel Noriega. Attempted CQ QSO w/ other pirates, one w/out ID came up briefly as "from the N. shore of Lake Ontario." QSO w/ Secret Mountain Lab also. Played mx de Gorilla Biscuits & the Dickies. Said they were using Heathkit DX60B w/ SML using Viking Ranger. (ZELLER,OH) (FERDON,NC) (PROVANCE,OH) (D'ANGELO,PA)

Radio USA: 7417, 1/15, 2311-2346*, SIO=343. T/in to a portion of mailbag 452. Hrd usual "drop everything" promo, then anncd Dead Kennedy's Jello, but carrier dropped instead. Back on & into ad for "Krudco 8792.6 rcvr" w/ amazingly low sensitivity. Wellsville addr. Mentioned Martin Luther King Day. Also hrd on 7462, 1/18 w/ test of new xmtr; strong carrier, but weak mod. (ARTHUR via ANARC BBS)

Radio Yuletide: 7415v, 12/25, *0258-0403*. Instr Xmas mx. OM anncr w/ freq IDs: "This is Yuletide R. bcsting from the North Pole." Somewhat overmod, some FMing & carrier wobbles 300Hz. OM narration of Xmas story tough to copy w/ bad mod. IS at s/on & QRT an instrum version of "Deck the Halls." Nice new age version of many songs. Carols & Garrison Keillor story. PSE QSL. (ZELLER,OH) (ARRITT,KS) (TROMP,MI) (PROVANCE,OH) (ROSS,ONT) (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS)

Samurai Radio: 6275.1, 12/24, 0002-0038*. Xmas special incl mx by Wings, Elton John, Mel Torme & "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer." Hrd bits from "It's a Wonderful Life." Special from "Voice of Oriental America." (PROVANCE,OH) (SACHS,IL) (RICHOLSON,VA) 6275, 12/25, 0732-0757*. Alerted to this by WMR; Xmas test to Europe. Very weak. Hope they got hrd in Europe, but lots of luck. Off before the end. (SMITH,NY) (PROVANCE,OH) (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS) [Slanesville addr; 3 25 cent stamps for QSL.]

Secret Mountain Laboratory: 7410, 12/21, 0037-0100*. Nat'l Lampoon's Idi Amin hot tub ad. Phone co. ad. Varied mx. Wellsville addr. (SACHS,IL) 7410, 12/27, 2210-2225*, SIO=211. Very difficult copy w/ splatter from India on 7412. Later, #s stn came directly on freq. (FERDON,NC) 7375.7, 12/30, 2215-2232*, SIO=555. QSO w/ R. USA & Samurai R. Talked abt eqmt & guesses as to QTHs. Various comments abt identity. (PROVANCE,OH)

Secret Society Radio: 6850, 11/26, 2210-2213*, SIO=333. Hrd end of pgm. Rock mx, ID, QSL info & MD addr. (CONNOR,PA) 7410, 12/25, 2258-2318*. (TROMP,MI) 7410.3, 1/1, 2007-2014*, SIO=454. Hrd Hendrix's "All Along the Watch Tower." (PROVANCE,OH) 7410, 1/13, 2244-2315*, RR song w/ long list of DXers who had written. Mx by Joe Walsh & other groups. Slow drift. Baltimore addr. "Desperado DJ" w/ no sign of Pirate Jim. (TROMP,MI) (ZELLER,OH) (PROVANCE,OH) (SACHS,IL) 6850, 1/15, 0409+, SIO=333. Same as 1/13 show. (TROMP,MI)

TAGAR: 7484, 1/12, 0430-0551*, SIO=121. Not a whole lot hrd. Ended w/ "What a Wonderful World" and "What the World Needs Now." ID as "tango alpha golf alpha romeo." (COLLINS,WI)

United World Radio: 7415, 12/25, 1928-1945+, SIO=242. Peace mx from rock to reggae & TAGAR addr. Lousy sig here w/ tuning up & number counts from 1942 on. (SMITH,NY) (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS)

Voice of Laryngitis: 7415, 12/25, 0209-0213*, SIO=232. Caught end of xmsn w/ ID, Wellsville addr & seal IS. (SMITH,NY)

Voice of the North: 15048, 12/24, 1849+, SIO=444. Nice show w/ Xmas mx de 50's. Voice of the Purple Pumpkin (10/89) DJ. WV addr. (TROMP,MI)

Voice of Radio Free Indiana: 7415, 11/26, 0012-0041, SIO=343. Pop & some country mx. Slanesville addr. (SMITH,TN)

Voice of Laryngitis: 15050, 12/24, 2102-2120*. Usual VOL fare of songs, Bull Bruiser sports, etc. Old tape as gave Battle Creek MI addr. (SACHS,IL) 7414.9, 12/25, 0044-0112*, SIO=232. Rebcast of old Xmas show. "Almost Heresy" hour by Rev. Billy Bob Huxley. Sponsored by Friendly Freddy's Budget Burial. (ZELLER,OH) 7415, 12/25, 0100+.

More recent show. (SACHS,IL) 7415, 12/25, 0050-0205, SIO=333-. Preacher tape. Ad for Xmas greatest hits by various artists. Kennedy speech w/ "2001" theme in background. Kennedy assassination bit. IS of barking seals. (RYAN,MO) 7414.8, 12/25, 0155-0212, SIO=222. QRM de jammer. Funny ads. (ROSS,ONT) 7414.9, 12/25, 0200-0213*, SIO=242+. Rebcast of 10/28/89 pgm, incl battle of Monster Ministers. Freq much better after WSHB QRT. (ZELLER,OH) [Wellsville addr.]

Voice of Stench: 6850, 12/3, 1632-1640+, SIO=444. Sig overmod. Repeat pgm. (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS) 6851, 12/17, 2235-2248*, SIO=333. Chuck Berry mx. Mentioned listener names. Comedy ads. WV addr. (CONNOR,PA) 7411, 12/17, 2300-2317*. Barely hrd w/ ID & maildrop. Rock mx w/ interference from stn playing bluegrass mx. Apparently same stn which interferes w/ Hope R. (SPOONER,MA)

WBRI: 7480, 12/9, 0312-0321, SIO=232. ID as N. Hemisphere Svc. (SMITH,TN) 7485, 1/13, 0412+. Usual excellent, varied mx selections incl reggae, rock, etc. Sig S-7 here. (SACHS,IL)

WENJ: 7415, 1/7, 0245, SIO=444. All oldies J-Rock. Call in for QSLs toll-free for NJ listeners, others pay. In mid-phone #, said "Dutchfield." Abt 0255, Hope R. sat right on top - frustrating to wait days for a hot signal then receive the best het I've ever hrd. (COLLINS,WI) 7415, 1/8, 0215-0300+. Slick oldies w/ Jack Beane. Said was WENJ's 1st bcst for 1990. Gave out phone # of 201-525-7960 for QSLs. Excellent pgm. (FRAILEY,WI) (ARRITT,KS) (SACHS,IL) 7415, 1/15, *0253-0400. The Beane man back on w/ oldies. Said off the air due to FCC heat & drop operator giving out too much info. Said not to use any of prior drops, but to call phone #s given. (TROMP,MI) (FRAILEY,WI)

WERC: 7375, 1/1, *1930-2134*. New stn & very prof operation. S/on w/ mx fanfare & annmnts. Classy jazz followed by "Close Encounters" theme. Comedy ads for beer. Annncr was Phil Duff. Gave fax # & address of PopComm. PSE QSL. Said to rpt to PopComm. (FERDON,NC) (D'ANGELO,PA) (SMITH,NY) (PYM via ANARC BBS)

WHBB: 7416, 12/17, 2123-2230+. Mountain/Bluegrass mx. Annncr said "This is Hillbilly Heaven playing the mx of ----" On w/ Hope Radio. Appalachian folk mx. Apparent switching of LSB & AM. (CONNOR,PA) (SMITH,TN) 7414, 12/25, 1800-1820, SIO=333. Country mx. (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS) 7380, 12/25, 2110-2143*, SIO=222. IDs by falsetto voiced OM. Special annmnt de "Possum Trot Paper" concerning VA's new governor & banquet w/ prices for tickets. S/off w/ drone-like violin solo. PSE QSL. (PROVANCE,OH) 7410.3, 12/26, 2302-2320, SIO=212. Tentative ID. Baltimore addr given. Played bluegrass mx. DJ had twangy voice. Carrier OK, but weak audio. (RYAN,MO) 7420, 12/30, *2300-0002*, SIO=444. Featured mx of Uncle Dave Macon. S/on & off w/ overmod violin solo. Falsetto OM & real YL annncrs. IDed as "Hillbilly Heaven." No QSL info. QRM de Moscow. Could hear well in LSB, even though AM bcst. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA) (SACHS,IL) (PROVANCE,OH) 7420, 12/31, 2345-0005*, SIO=433. Banjo tunes w/ bad het de bcst stn. (PATTERSON,NC) 7411v, 1/1, 2245-2335*. Amos & Andy skits. Bcst quality improved as xmtr warmed up. Another stn would break in occ w/ comments esp after abrupt ending at 2324: "Sounds real good ... Where are you Uncle Charley," etc. Hillbilly songs incl "Barnacle Bill the Sailor," "I Was Born About 400 Years Ago," etc. Titles of songs annncd. Dialog w/ op of WRFI. LSB. PSE QSL. (TROMP,MI) (ZELLER,OH) (COLLINS,WI) (LANDAU,NJ) (FERDON,NC) [Baltimore addr]

WLAR: 7415, 1/21, 1730-1800+, SIO=343. Testing antennas w/ EZ rock by YL singer. Nice mod & fidelity. PSE QSL. (ARTHUR via ANARC BBS)

WRFI: 7415, 1/1, 2323-2335*, SIO=444. 1st hrd commenting to WHBB "sounds good." At 2329, asked "Where are you?" IDed as Voice of Radio Free Intelligence." LSB. Tones & keying until 2340. Silence between IDs. LSB mode. PSE QSL. (ZELLER,OH) (LANDAU,NJ)

WRNR: 7374.1, 1/1, 0313-0338*. Rock mx by Lynard Skynard, Joe Walsh & others. Reverb on voice made copy a strain. "My Country 'Tis of Thee" at QRT. (PROVANCE,OH) (ZELLER,OH)

WYOY: 7415, 12/24, 1812-1847*, SIO=555. Mx & Beatles rare tracks. (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS) 7414, 12/25, 1723-1756*. Friendly, informal annncr. Mx from Gordon Lightfoot, Joni Mitchell & Beatles. Repeat of 12/24 bcst. PSE QSL. (SMITH,NY) (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS)

Yuletide Radio: see R. Yuletide

Zodiac Radio: 7415, 12/9, 0235. QSL to NY POB. ACE discussion & comments abt "being off the air for awhile because people think I'm boring." (BREWER via PORTAL) 7417, 12/25, 0054-0240. KNBS Xmas show rebcast. "Very Marijuana & a Happy New Year." (PIERCE,CA) 7417, 1/15, 0108-0305, fair to good sig. Muddy audio on tape segments. Amos and Andy. KNBS rebroadcast of Christmas special. (BREWER,NM) 7417, 1/17, 0304-0407. Rebroadcast of JFK tape. Interview from Adventure Radio Network. Excellent audio and signal. (BREWER,NM) 7416, 1/21, 0040-0346*, SIO=544. 50's & 60's mx followed by endless sequence of harpsicord songs. Relayed material de stns in Ireland & Tonga. (KINGMAN via ANARC BBS)

UNIDENTIFIEDS

1620, 12/3, 0431-0433*. Hrd "Let's Go to the Hop." No ID. (SPOONER,MA)

1620, 1/13, 0521. UNID Caribbean & Urban contemporary mx, w/ apparent FMing. POLLOCK indicates this is a spur of CHIN 1540 in Toronto.

1620, 1/15, 0348-0405+, SIO=322-. OM/YL discussing SW. Badly distorted in AM & could not copy in FM due to QRM de TIS. ANARC net reporters (several) say they hear ethnic mx (UNID) in distorted FM here. (ZELLER,OH)

1621, 1/1, 0211-0350+, SIO=151. Probably same stn as 1622 12/25 UNID. Same lousy sig & audio; possibly a relay. STILL no ID. (SMITH,NY)

1622, 12/25, 0534-0706+, SIO=151. Apparent relay of commercial stn. AC mx from Marvin Gaye & others as well as holiday tunes. OM & YL taking phone calls. Boomy, distorted audio. 1% copy. (SMITH,NY)

1623, 12/24, 0100+. Hrd person talking in unknown lang, sounded a bit like Yiddish. (SACHS,IL)

1630, 1/13, 2237-2301*, SIO=354. Strong dead carrier. Abt same strength as WJDI. Tune up? (SMITH,NY)

6206, 12/3, 0831-0900+. Europirate? Mx w/ OM between songs. ID had Radio ---- & addr seemed to incl Box 110. (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS)

6240, 12/24, 0506-0510, SIO=111. Barely audible songs; one possibly in SS? (RICHOLSON,VA)

6240, 12/24, 0532-0538, SIO=212. Could copy occ words from M DJ. "... United States of America... broadcast information... 7425 & 7450 ... W... Radio. "You're listening to 5827... in 1989... Merry Christmas... Radio... frequency... Christmas QSL." Any ideas? (RICHOLSON,VA)

6850, 11/26, 2210-2213*. Hrd Baltimore addr, but did not copy ID. (SPOONER,MA)

6850, 1/15, 0141-0224. Hrd Crosby, Stills, Nash songs then lost to QRM. (BIGGS via ANARC BBS)

6865, 1/19, 0010-0020*, SIO=222. Hrd "She Drives Me Crazy" by FYC. Laughing & song w/ what sounded like "Shut the f--- up" repeated. Cover of "Holiday" (Madonna). Off mid-song. (COLLINS,WI)

6866, 12/30, 0152-0202*, SIO=333. Hard rock & heavy metal de Aerosmith & others. Off abruptly w/ no talk. (SMITH,NY)

6868, 1/13, 0050-0128*, SIO=222. Metal mx; off mid-song several minutes - later off mid-song for good. No ID or talk. (COLLINS,WI) 7375, 12/30, 2155, SIO=454. OM w/ brief comments to Samurai R. that they had a good sig at his QTH. Mentioned north shore of L. Ontario. Did not copy other name. (PROVANCE,OH)

7410, 12/17, 2307-2318*. Bluegrass mx; off air several times for a few seconds. No ID or annmnt. (SPOONER,MA) 12/17, 2310-2317*, SIO=312. Possibly 2 stns at same time, one primarily in USB, other in LSB. USB stn gave WV addr & may have s/off at 2316. LSB stn played country songs & left w/ harmonica tune at 2317. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA)

7410.1, 12/25, 2313-2318*, SIO=423. Caught "your rock 'n roll & bluegrass connection." Was followed by 2 tunes, 1 w/ fiddle & banjo, other rock, ending w/ audience applause, the power off. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA)

7410.2, 12/30, 0216+. Classical violin mx w/ YL annncr in what sounded like German. (SACHS,IL)

7411.2->7414.1, 12/29, 2333-2354, SIO=242. Low audio classical mx. No anncts w/ steady upward drift. (PROVANCE,OH)
 7411.6, 12/12, 2317-2328, SIO=444. Banjo mx & country songs on same freq/time as Hope Radio. UNID stn hrd best in LSB due to co-channel QRM. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA)
 7411.7, 12/31, 0219-0234, SIO=212. At 1st mx sounded like Swingle Singers, later weird sounding voices or noises. (RICHOLSON,VA)
 7412.2, 12/26, 0103*. Open carrier until power off. (RICHOLSON,VA)
 7413, 12/30, 2342-0000. Powerful, S-6 carrier w/ classical mx, as though from another radio source. On same time as WHBH. PSE QSL & ID. (SACHS,IL) 2341-2359*, SIO=544. 100% classical mx, but mod FAR too low. Good fidelity. To 7415 by 2350. Noted back on 7412 at 0035. On 7413 at 0236. (SMITH,NY) 2342-2359* & 0008-0015+, SIO=334. Low audio classical mx. Hrd "Bolero" at 0008. (PROVANCE,OH)
 7414.1, 12/30, 2346-2359*, SIO=434. Strictly classical mx w/ pauses between each piece. (RICHOLSON,VA)
 7414.8, 12/25, 0156-0159, SIO=444. OM jamming VoL. Said "Get off the radio while you can, man." Also said "Merry Christmas & Happy New Year." Said he was in CA where it was warm. (ROSS,ONT)
 7414.9, 12/25, *0117-0130+, SIO=222-. Rock mx. Poor copy & no talk copied. Possibly same xmtr as VoL earlier as both on 7414.88. Buried in WSHB slop. (ZELLER,OH)
 7415, 12/8, 0300-0400, SIO=151. Stn sig was consistently in the noise entire bcst except for 3 sec burst that was enough to bring out a few song lyrics; hrd "Africa" by Toto. Midway through bcst, voice from another stn on SSB said, "Hello, radio" a time or two. (BISHOP,KS)
 7415, 12/24, 2148-2200*, SIO=434. Holiday & EZL mx. Off after "Silent Night." No talk hrd. (SMITH,NY)
 7415, 12/25, *2357-0000* & 2300, SIO=555. Hrd w/ slowed-down "Frosty the Snowman" mx; no voice hrd. (TROMP,MI)
 7415, 1/8, *0151-0207*, SIO=333. Var rock & soul. Most songs only played part way, w/ much dead air. VFO moved up & down by op. Sig took a dive at 0206. Was on afterward, but w/ no copy. (ZELLER,OH)
 7415, 1/15, 0313-0334. Playing oldies & phone #. (BIGGS-ANARC BBS)
 7415, 1/21, 0041. Played segment of Dr. Demento show. (SACHS,IL) [See RNI relay]
 7416, 1/14, *1921-1934* & 2056+, SIO=444. Slow, relaxing mx w/ 10 min talk abt meditation & religion. ID at s/on, but voice too distorted to copy. PSE QSL. (TROMP,MI)
 7416.1, 12/17, 2115-2333, SIO=444. Country mx w/ lots of fiddle playing incl what sounded like "Yankee Doodle." Best in LSB due to AM/USB QRM by Hope R. PSE QSL. (RICHOLSON,VA)
 7417, 1/17, 0340-0407. 60s music including Manfred Mann, listed 2 telephone #s including one with 201 AC and one 800 #. (BREWER,NM) [see - WENJ]
 7420, date?, 0304-0317. Pgm of Grand Old Opry mx. No ID. (SACHS,IL)
 15036, 12/23, 2036-2100+, SIO=141. Bits of rock & world beat mx fading in & out. Annncr w/ echo effect; EE. Sounded like 15 min tape loop. Procol Harum's "Whiter Shade of Pale" & Abba's "Knowing Me, Knowing You" hrd. No copy of ID. (SMITH,NY)
 15037, 12/23, 2049-2057, SIO=222. Rock mx w/ bad QSB. In/out. (ROSS,ONT)
 15044, 12/31, 1935-1955+, SIO=151-. Fading in occ. Humor skits in EE. Holiday & rock mx hrd also. Euro pirate? (SMITH,NY)

ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD

Radio Atlantis: 6206, 12/25, 0753-0853, SIO=333-. Show w/ jingles & promos basically. At 0820, replaced w/ another stn, tho seemingly same xmtr. Addr Box 114, Sheerenberg, Holland w/ a pgm different than R. Atlantis, incl "Jinglebell Rock," etc. (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS)
Radio East Coast Holland: 7487, 12/24, 0455-0537*, SIO=333-. +9 peaks! Pro-sounding IDs & light metal to classic rock mx. DJ in EE, but with Dutch accent. Several by The Who played. Dead carrier from 0532. (SMITH,NY)
Radio Gloria: 6285, 12/25, 0830-0835, SIO=151. Slight traces of audio fading in and out. ID from WMR. (PROVANCE,OH)
Radio Stella International: 6320, 11/26, 0407-0507+, SIO=232. M annrc w/ EZ rock mx. ID at 0443 w/ addr. New pgm at 0445 incl "You Must Think I'm Crazy" & Beach Boys "Good Vibrations." (CONNOR,PA) 6320, 12/10, 0529-0540 f/out, SIO=242. Noted rock vocals. Sig rose out of noise slowly & faded away. (D'ANGELO,PA) 6319.4, 12/10, 0712-0835, SIO=111->322. Traces of audio only by 0710. Light pop/rock mx

& OM DJ talk. Started to peak abt 0815. David Bowie song, then OM DJ gave ID as R. Stella. Mentioned a request. OM has Scottish accent. Hrd "Seasons in the Sun" by Terry Jacks. Gone at 0835. Addr of 23 South Beachwood, Edinburgh, Scotland 12. (ROSS,ONT)
Rainbow Radio (tentative): 6239.6, 12/25, 0756-0759, SIO=151. Traces of mx fading in & out. (PROVANCE,OH)
Weekend Music Radio: 6310, 12/25, 0401-0824+, SIO=242. 15 min tape loop Xmas show to NAM. Sked for R. Bucharest. Annncd Samurai R. test to Europe on 48m. YL w/ ID & QSL info in SS. Scottish humor song "Donald, Where's Your Trousers?" hrd. Splattered by LV del CID on 6305 0527+. (SMITH,NY) 6310.4, 12/25, 0539-0656-, SIO=312. Christmas show w/ info on pirate stns, e.g., Pirate Radio United Kingdom, East Coast Pirate Radio, Samurai Radio, Radio Gloria. Rpts to 42 Arran Close, Cambridge, England. (RICHOLSON,VA) 6310, 13630, 15043, 12/25, 0648-0900. Tape loop. SIO from 111 to 333. (SMOLINSKI via ANARC BBS) 6310.4, 12/25, 0722-0741*, SIO=253. Lots of Europirate nx & greetings to friends in Italy. Tape loop. (PROVANCE,OH) 6313, 12/25, 0800-0818+, SIO=353. Same loop. Annncd // on 13630 & 15043. Hrd on 13629.7 @ 0838 & on 15043 @ 0842. (PROVANCE,OH) 6239.6//6309.5//15043.1, 12/26, 0120-0238-, SIO=111->323. Multi-freq simulcast. Possibly repeated/loop bcst w/ mention of pirate info incl on R. Dublin. Mentioned Roland Archer. (RICHOLSON,VA) 6309.5, 12/26, 0250-0400+, SIO=222+. 15 min tape loop. Well presented. (PYM,DC via ANARC BBS) 6309.6 // 15043, 12/26, 0501-0526, SIO=222. OM DJ w/ WMR IDs. Annncd 2 freqs hrd + another not copied. Addr as above. Interludes. In/out. Some nice peaks. (ROSS,ONT) 6309.6, 12/26, 0608-0643+, SIO=211. Hvy QRM de CID & CW UTE. (PROVANCE,OH) 6310, 12/26, 0754-0905+, SIO=322. 12 min tape loop. Mentioned several 1Ded & UNIDED NAM pirates hrd in Europe over the weekend. (SMITH,NY) 6310.3, 1/1, 0639-0645, SIO=151. Instrum mx & ID. Mentioned Samurai R. Faded out. (PROVANCE,OH)

PSE QSL

Russell Biggs, 1200 E. Calton, Apt. 38, Laredo, TX 78041.
 Richard D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610.
 Robert Landau, 688 8th St., Secaucus, NJ 07094-3018.
 Ira Richolson, 1600 South Eads St., Apt 1030N, Arlington, VA 22202.
 Bud Wooten, POB 792, Rossville, GA 30741.

WANT ADS

WANTED: Digital receiver with good sensitivity, selectivity. Write to Shawn, P. O. Box 220116, St. Louis, MO 63122.

Group: rec.radio.shortwave, Item 699 (Current Item Range #500 - #705)
 Subject: pirate radio station busts
 From: rfc@briar.philips.com (Robert Casey;6282;3.57;#0201), Philips Laboratories
 BROOKLYN, NY--"As part of a continuing effort to shut down pirate radio broadcasters, US marshals and FCC staff seized equipment belonging to a pirate station here on 9 November.

The equipment, housed in Borough Park, was used to operate an unlicensed station on 71.9 MHz. under the illegal callsign WJFL, according to the FCC. Another Brooklyn pirate station, WHOT, was shut down in July.

The FCC has closed in on several pirate high frequency radio stations this year operated on 7415 kHz.: WNPR, Massapequa, NY, and WENJ, New Brunswick, NJ.

Penalties for unlicensed radio operations include seizure of the equipment, fines of up to \$100,000 and/or one year in prison for the operators.

[tnx to K2P6]

NEWS>

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Letter to the editor

At least one *ACE* columnist has expressed a continuing annoyance regarding perceived interference caused to pirate shortwave broadcasters by some licensed U.S. shortwave stations, among them WSHB. I bring a lot of energy and enthusiasm to the subject of interference, so I am writing to express an opinion about it.

Transmitter-caused interference, receiver-generated interference and interference resolution are subjects that help to define the interference problems and how to solve them.

Transmitter interference

It is rare that improper operation of a licensed broadcast transmitter is at the root of an interference problem. Not unheard of, but rare. Here is an example:

• *KBNO, Denver*--In 1979, I was operations director for KWBZ, 1150 kHz, Englewood, Colorado, a Denver suburb. Within my responsibility were programming and technical operations.

One morning when I drove to work, listening to the station, I heard a "clicking" noise on the station. While at work, one or more listeners called to complain of the "clicking" interference.

When one listener heard something "wrong" with the station, usually they all learned about it. KWBZ, you see, was a "talk" station that aired telephone calls. Listeners were quick to gripe "on the air" about anything they didn't like, including this new interference.

I verified that the clicking was not being fed from the studio down the telephone line to the transmitter, and then left to drive to the transmitter to check equipment there. As I drove, I tuned either side of KWBZ's dial position and found the clicking extended beyond the station's licensed frequency. Further observation revealed the clicking kept time to music being played on KBNO, 1220 kHz, Denver. So instead of driving to the KWBZ transmitter, I drove to the KBNO studio.

I spoke with the station's general manager, George Sandoval, who was hosting the morning show. "There must be something wrong with your transmitter, George," I explained. "It is causing interference that is picked up by KWBZ listeners when they tune our station. You need to fix it."

George asked, "Should I turn off the transmitter?" I replied: "I can't tell you to do that. That's your decision. But if I were you, the first thing I would do is call my chief engineer and ask him to verify whether your transmitter is the source."

I returned to the KWBZ studio and, presumably, George called his chief engineer. He left the transmitter on. KWBZ's owner, John Mullins, asked me whether I ought to file a complaint with the FCC. I said it would be better to wait until George had a chance to fix the problem. The next day, the clicking was gone. Repairs had been made at KBNO.

(For those who like to track this sort of thing, KWBZ later changed its call letters to KRZN. Last year, it swapped frequencies with KJIM, 760 kHz, Thornton, another Denver suburb. KJIM, 1150 kHz, then changed its call letters to KFRR. Today, KRZN occupies 760 kHz. Each station uses the other's former transmitter.)

Not usually the transmitter

Broadcast station licensees and their engineers normally take great care to operate their transmitters properly, especially if the station is financially sound. When interference is traced to the transmitter, steps usually are taken quickly to rectify any problem.

Other stations where I worked received interference complaints from listeners. For example, KLAK, Lakewood, Colorado, a Denver suburb, received complaints from its neighbors who heard the 1600 kHz signal on other dial positions and on their telephones and other devices. The problem was their proximity to the KLAK transmitter.

When KLAK was built, it was surrounded by ranch land. As the land was developed into residential housing, people moved into KLAK's "blanket" coverage area. The "blanket" coverage area is an area defined by the FCC as being close to the transmitter and having high signal levels. It is an area where receivers are subject to "front-end overload" whereby they may pick up the broadcast signal on unexpected dial positions. There are cures, but none that can be applied to the transmitter. Try to tell that to the neighbor. I have.

Many radio amateurs hear complaints from neighbors who receive interference on home entertainment devices ill-equipped to filter amateur signals. The amateur station may be operating entirely within FCC specifications, yet its signal may be received as interference on many consumer products.

As far as the neighbor is concerned, if the radio amateur ceased operation, the problem would be solved. Thus, the problem must lie in the radio amateur's equipment, yes? No, it does not, but try to convince the neighbor. Similar conclusions may be drawn with respect to interference from WSHB and other stations.

I am not so quick to conclude that the WSHB transmitter is operated improperly or contrary to FCC specifications. I do not doubt that some listeners "hear interference" from WSHB. I suspect some listeners' expectations of transmitter sideband noise suppression are higher than regulations require and their expectations of receiver performance go beyond their receivers' designs.

WSHB's chief engineer, Bob German, wrote me to say the station presently is the victim of severe interference from Radio Kiev on 7,400 kHz. "What will eventually happen is we will find a new spot on 41 meters," his letter reads.

One *ACE* columnist expressed the opinion that WSHB must be causing interference to radioteletype (RTTY) stations in Havana, Cuba, and Moscow that use 7,407 kHz to exchange messages. German identified the Havana station as CML5 and wrote: "Generally speaking, point-to-point circuits use highly directive rhombic antennas to eliminate a lot of interference. So even though a casual listener in, for example, Ohio would feel that WSHB is interfering with the RTTY circuit, the actual users probably notice very little interference."

German continued: "As a matter of fact, the utility stations use commercial-grade receivers with sharp intermediate-frequency (IF) filters. For example, I can copy CML5 perfectly at home in Allendale, SC, even with WSHB operating nearby on 7,400 kHz. I use a Racal 1270 receiver. Switching over to one of my Yaesu FRG 8800 receivers, I have a hard time copying anything. There simply is a lot of difference in performance between a \$600 radio and a \$6,000 radio."

German expressed an opinion as to why shortwave listeners have difficulty tuning weak signals in the 41 meter band: "I guess what is happening right now is that with the solar activity so high,

the 7 MHz band has become a real freeway on the north/south East Coast circuit. A lot of listeners actually have receiver front-end overload problems. The other extreme is 9,455 kHz, which is average on that circuit in the evening hours. No one is complaining about us there, and Radio Ankara from Turkey can be heard clearly, with no interference from us, on 9,445 kHz. WSHB uses the same transmitter and antenna on 9,455 kHz as it does on 7,400 kHz."

In my December article, "How To Pre-Emphasize Audio For The Best Possible Reception," I reprinted the FCC's "RF mask" for standard AM broadcast stations in the 535 kHz to 1605 kHz (soon to be 1705 kHz) band. It shows that, for example, effective July 1, sideband noise 40 kHz to either side of an AM station's dial position should be suppressed at least 45 dB, despite the maximum limit of 10 kHz baseband audio.

Say I were to tune local station WHB, 710 kHz, Kansas City, and its signal were 45 dB over S9-- I might hear some S9 sideband noise at dial positions as far removed as 670 kHz and 750 kHz. I might call the sideband noise "interference." Nevertheless, the WHB transmitter could be operating properly and within FCC limits. Depending upon my receiver's design, I might hear sideband noise stronger than S9.

Although I do not have a copy of the "RF mask" for U.S. shortwave broadcast stations, I think it would reveal that listeners can expect a certain amount of sideband noise at frequencies considerably removed from the licensed dial position if the shortwave station's signal is exceptionally strong.

Receiver Interference

Shortwave receivers can generate their *own* interference, especially in the presence of strong signals such as those from WSHB and WWCR. Chapter 12 of the 1990 *ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs* reveals some shortcomings of even the most expensive shortwave receivers:

"Double-conversion superheterodyne receivers were for a long time the choice of manufacturers and amateurs. The second IF was often 100 kHz or 50 kHz, thereby enabling the designer to get fairly reasonable orders of selectivity by means of high-Q IF transformers. That concept predated the availability of crystal-lattice and mechanical filters. The low-frequency second IF dictated the use of a double-conversion circuit to minimize image responses.

"Single-conversion receivers offer much cleaner performance in terms of spurious responses and dynamic range. Although their performance is acceptable in many instances, there is considerable room for improvement. At least there is only one mixer to cause intermodulation distortion (IMD) and overloading problems in a single-conversion superheterodyne receiver. A strong doubly balanced mixer (DBM) and careful gain distribution in such a receiver can yield superb performance. Of course, the local oscillator should be stable and low in noise components to further enhance performance. Thus far, not many commercially built amateur receivers meet these criteria.

"In terms of dynamic range, some manufactured receivers exhibit an MDS (minimum discernible signal) of -145dBm (referenced to the noise floor); blocking of the desired signal does not occur (1dB of compression) until the adjacent test signal is some 116 dB above the noise floor, and the two-tone IMD dynamic range is on the order of 85 dB. *A receiver with the approximate figures just given is considered to be an acceptable one for use where fairly strong signals prevail.*" [italics added]

Money spent on a shortwave receiver does not dictate its performance in the presence of strong

signals. Design does. For example, Sherwood Engineering, Denver, found that the Drake R-4C receiver had many desirable characteristics, but lacked a few others. One defect of the receiver is IF filter leakage that allows strong signals entering the first IF stage to leak past the second IF stage filter, no matter how narrow the second IF filter may be.

Thus, a listener using the 250 Hz CW filter and who hears interference from an adjacent frequency might incorrectly attribute it to some kind of splatter from "the other guy's" maladjusted transmitter, when really it is IF filter leakage. Sherwood sold narrow, add-on, switchable first IF filters to solve the problem. With the Sherwood filters, the R-4C took its place at the top of Sherwood's receiver performance list, ahead of the legendary Collins R-390A.

Interference resolution

I cannot think of a single instance in which an interference situation has been resolved only by writing about it in a publication. Maybe it has happened, but an example is unknown to me.

Instead, interference resolution starts when the party receiving interference communicates with party causing it. If that fails, sometimes the FCC can lend a hand by requiring and monitoring responses from the offending party. Once in awhile, the FCC sends engineers to make measurements and to draw conclusions regarding proper transmitter operation. If they find the transmitter defective or improperly operated, the engineers issue citations to require corrective action. A licensee who never takes corrective action after being cited faces escalating fines and license revocation.

If an ACE member is convinced that interference is caused by an improperly operated transmitter licensed by the FCC, then the first step is to write to the licensee. I would be pleased to supply addresses from my reference books.

Interference reports should include the time, frequency and nature of the interference. To be taken seriously, the reports should cite interference caused by a licensed station to the reception of one or more other licensed stations, U.S. or foreign.

Estimate:

- the strength of the signal receiving interference.
- the strength of the interference on the desired station's frequency.
- the strength of the suspected source of interference on its own licensed frequency.

As detailed a description of the interference and reception conditions as possible should be included. Tape recordings can be useful.

You are likely to find most broadcast station engineers helpful and sympathetic to interference complaints. At least, that has been my experience.

At the same time, they are likely to be knowledgeable about transmitter sideband noise and receiver performance limitations. You may "hear interference" outside what you believe to be reasonable broadcast station bandwidth limits. But that does not necessarily mean the transmitter is operating improperly or that the transmitter is *causing* the interference.

Don Bishop
P.O. Box 4075
Overland Park, KS 66204-0075

Harry L. Helms AA6FW
7445 Andasol St.
San Diego, CA 92126

Thrills! Chills! Spine-Tingling Excitement! COVERT CORNER

Okay, I have to open this month with an apology. Last month I said Don Schimmel is not an ACE member. Don promptly let me know I was wrong. *Well, excuse me buddy!! That's the last time I ever try to protect your reputation!*

The big news over the past few weeks has been the "Foghorn," a new type of signal that's been appearing all over the place during the evening hours. The Foghorn is a synthesized sound that resembles a cross between a Nintendo game sound effect and Jimi Hendrix. It is intermittent, being heard for only a few seconds at a time on a frequency. For example, I heard The Foghorn on 7920 kHz on January 15 from 0627 to past 0700. The Foghorn was heard for about 30 seconds at a time, with intervals of approximately one minute between signals.

The Foghorn is often heard on two frequencies within the same general range. For example, on January 14 it was heard on 5240 and 5303.5 kHz at 0500. On January 21, it was heard on 11420 and 11468 at around 0530.

What is really remarkable about the Foghorn is that it apparently seems to deliberately jam certain types of covert stations! On January 7, the Foghorn was taking out a five-digit Spanish station on 7920 at 0453; when the numbers transmission ended, the Foghorn left the frequency and did not return. At 0530 that same evening, the Foghorn was atop KKN50 on 6925.5 and taking it out as well. Regular numbers stations monitors such as Havana Moon and Kristin Kaye have heard it drowning out numbers stations on frequencies such as 6840.

So what is it? Right now the jury's still out. It could be a jammer, or it could be some sort of data transmission for various purposes (but it doesn't sound like packet, multiplex, etc.). More reports and observations are definitely needed. Where is it from? We have a good clue that it's from a Central American site—hopefully, we'll have something more concrete soon.

George Zeller took time out from preparing his 1990 Pirate Directory (the only pirate radio book you'll ever need) to write about some of his loggings. He reports a slow pitched series of a dozen repeating tones on 7535.8 at 0400 on January 14; this was followed by a "message" of rapid tones until the first dozen tones repeated at 0404 until sign off at 0405. (My guess, George, is that this was some sort of "piccolo" transmission—HLH). George reports something that sounds like the Foghorn on 6266 at 0350 on January 7. George also says he "prints" a bootleg RTTY net on 27538.6 at 1450 January 13 50/200R with calls such as "FT141 DE AZ01." Finally, George notes a lot of weird activity on 6840. In addition to numbers, he also hears phonetic alphabet stations. Right you are on that, George; by my records, 6840 has seen more different types of unusual radio signals—everything from phonetic alphabet messages to tone-modulated CW numbers—than any other frequency. This is one frequency you should check whenever you're listening.

A member who wishes to remain anonymous writes that he visited El Salvador in 1985 and was surprised to see a lot of amateur radio equipment in use there for clearly non-amateur purposes. He said he was visiting a sock factory in San Miguel and saw a Kenwood TS-430S installed in an office there. It was tuned to a frequency in the 7.5 MHz range, and he was told it was used to alert the military if the area or factory came under attack. This member further writes that a considerable amount of drug-related traffic in Latin America uses amateur radio equipment, particularly

above and below 20 meters and below 40 meters.

I also received a missive from Mark Pierce which I am in the process of having translated. Mark, please be patient—the lithium shortage will soon be over.

If you haven't checked into Havana Moon's *Los Numeros On-Line* yet on Portal, you're missing out on a lot. Where else can you join in on real-time discussions of cryogenically preserved heads or chase numbers stations and pirates with other DXers around the country?

Your "Foghorn" reports are eagerly wanted! Please report! 73 and good DX!!!

Harry

CLANDESTINE PROFILE by George Zeller

Your loggings and information on clandestine radio stations are always welcome for this column. You can send them to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 on weekdays between 1300-2145 UTC.

THE PIRATE RADIO DIRECTORY - 1990 EDITION - NOW AVAILABLE

As projected in last month's Clandestine Profile column, the 1990 edition of *The Pirate Radio Directory* (by your editor George Zeller) is now available. This 76 page book profiles 111 North American pirate stations that were active in 1989, which represents a huge 127% increase over the number profiled in last year's edition. All stations receive coverage of their history and origin, times and frequencies of past operations, programming format and content, station personnel, and correspondence address (when known). Detailed sections in the book cover how to hear and QSL pirate stations. The number of illustrations has also increased to 53. If you liked the 1989 edition of this *Directory*, you will want to take a look at the greatly expanded and massively rewritten 1990 edition. Despite the significant expansion, Tiare has managed to keep the cost down. The book is available at a moderate cost of \$7.95 US, plus \$2.00 shipping and handling in the USA. (The shipping and handling fee is \$3.00 US for foreign orders). Orders should be sent to Tiare Publications, Post Office Box 493, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin 53147. I will try to minimize these blatant plugs during the rest of the year, but I enjoyed writing this edition, and I hope that you will also enjoy reading and using it. Your comments and suggestions on the book are welcome.

RADIO MISKUT RETURNS

Despite the drastic budget cuts that the Nicaraguan Contras suffered during the past year, their clandestine radio stations remain on the air. Your editor still hears their primary station, Radio Quince de Septiembre, nightly in the 2300 UTC (and later) range on a measured frequency of 6214.47 KHz. (This is about 70 hz higher than they used to use). In addition, clandestine expert Gerry Dexter of Wisconsin called to confirm reports in other DX sources that another recently inactive Contra station, Radio Miskut, has returned to the air. It is on at about the same time as Radio Quince de Septiembre on its old variable 5560 KHz frequency. This station first went on the air in 1983, broadcasting in the Miskito Indian language to parts of Nicaragua populated by this ethnic group. However, for the last three years or so it had apparently been silent. Gerry's October 1986 issue of his *Clandestine Confidential* newsletter gave an address for Radio Miskut, but it certainly is not known if it is still good. If you'd like to give it a try, it is Misura Political Commission, Post Office Box 1668, Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

RADIO PATRIA LIBRE CHANGES FREQUENCIES

The Colombian clandestine Radio Patria Libre has abandoned its old frequency in the 6750 KHz range. It is now operating down on the high end of the 49 meter pirate band. Your editor heard them on 6300 KHz from 0035-0131* UTC on January 1. On January 22 they signed off much earlier at 0103* UTC, and were up slightly in frequency to 6310.1 KHz. This station's programming is essentially unchanged, with male and female announcers attacking the government of Colombia, supplemented by some local folk ballads. While they have definitely changed frequencies in 1990, the motive behind the move is unclear. The United States' invasion of Panama and its aborted proposal to send the Navy to patrol off the coast of Colombia in an anti-drug effort have certainly not diminished the amount of material available for dissection on Radio Patria Libre. In a slightly related matter, a late January issue of *Newsweek* magazine reported that the cocaine arrest of Washington, DC Mayor Marion Barry was front-page news in Bogota. It might also make sense to monitor Radio Patria Libre during President Bush's forthcoming visit to Colombia for the Western Hemisphere drug summit.

WSHB RESPONDS TO A*C*E MEMBERS AGAIN

In the January A*C*E, Don Bishop once again had a very interesting interview with Bob German, Chief Engineer of WSHB shortwave in Pineland, South Carolina. I accepted Bob's invitation to write him about the puzzling "hash" white noise that many of us have been hearing about +/- 20 KHz around WSHB's 7400 KHz signal. This hiss effect has some influence on at least one clandestine frequency, 7380 KHz, which often is occupied by a transmitter parallel to La Voz del CID's primary 9941.7 KHz channel. Bob was kind enough to reply with a detailed 3 1/2 page response. He included a nice picture of the station's impressive antenna array that is driven by a Brown Boveri 500 kilowatt transmitter. Don reports that he has been giving serious consideration to all of the "rumbling" in DX circles about his transmitter's "hiss."

Don says that his own FRG-8800 (fed by a series of Alpha Delta slopers) is absolutely clobbered by WSHB on frequencies like 7410 KHz. But, he only lives 20 miles from the powerful transmitter, and this effect is certainly just front end overload from the WSHB groundwave signal. The 8800 is notorious for this. However, Don also uses (gasp!) a Racal 1270 receiver. On this professional receiver, he can filter out the adjacent WSHB powerhouse, and he notices no hiss. Don says even 7406 KHz is "absolutely clear" on his \$7500 Racal.

The WSHB staff has even gone to the trouble of temporarily swapping transmitter frequencies with their Maine site on a test basis. Don says that the results of this test were "that our signal is clean as a whistle and well within the legal requirements regarding bandwidth and spurs." Don also points out that ICOM 9000 spectrum display readings should be done with a heavy 100 Hz bandwidth notch on the center carrier of an observed station. I will have to check out this possibility the next time that I have access to a 9000. The last time, at the Universal Shortwave showroom in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, I noted an unusually wide set of bandwidth skirts around the WSHB 7400 carrier on the 9000's spectrum display. Don speculates that what we all have observed is simply the 25 megawatt effective beam of WSHB enhanced by outstanding current propagation on 41 meters. All of us in A*C*E certainly appreciate Don's excellent responsiveness to inquiries from DX-ers. We should also keep in mind that Christian Science Monitor shortwave stations have been extremely supportive of the Committee to Preserve Radio Verifications, and they deserve kudos for this.

But, despite Don's friendly and detailed analysis, I remain puzzled. That wideband hiss is still there, and I am just not convinced that it is caused only by a superpowered beam heading and red hot 41 meter propagation. It is just too common in people's receivers all over eastern North America. Don also mentioned in his letter that WSHB uses the new high-tech digital dynamic carrier controlled modulation method, which physically prevents overmodulation while maintaining maximum transmitter efficiency. Might the hiss be a latent side effect of this? Don unequivocally denies that WSHB generates spurs, and I think that he is correct. What we hear does not sound like a transmitter spur. It is something else. What do the rest of you think? Send in your opinions! I will talk some more about this in the March A*C*E.

FREE RADIO ONE - PIRATE OR CLANDESTINE?

We still are kicking around the case of Free Radio One as an example of the borderline between pirate and clandestine stations. Last month we heard from Mike Hardester of Okinawa, who feels that Free Radio One is a clandestine. Mike's logic was that since Free Radio One is strongly political in its programming content, and since it viciously attacks the United States government's tax policies and "religious persecution," it crosses over the line to clandestine status. Your editor tends to agree with this, given the vigor that the station uses in attacking our existing government.

But, pirate expert and A*C*E editor Andrew Yoder checks in this month with an opposing view. Andrew says that only one person operates this station, and that he does not really appear to be trying to overthrow the government. Andrew finds it hard to accept the concept "hobby clandestine." The Free Radio One irregular schedule and seeming isolation from any organized political group mean that it cannot be a clandestine. So, according to Andrew's logic, it should be considered a pirate. In fact, Andrew goes one step further. He also puts the Voice of Tomorrow clearly in the "pirate" category. The V of T transmits irregularly, it is "isolated," and they are "not connected to any other political or military force." Andrew also points out that if political content alone could classify a station as a clandestine, then KNBS, Radio Free Willy, Tangerine Radio, Radio SDI, and other political pirates would then be "clandestines."

I would add one alternative perspective. It is one thing to operate a clandestine directed against a relatively small country such as Zimbabwe, Nicaragua, or El Salvador. It is quite another kettle of fish to beam clandestine radio programming to a superpower like the United States on a regularly scheduled basis. If the USA military got sick of the Voice of Tomorrow, the Voice of Communism, or any other station (including unanimously agreed upon stations that are clandestines), then it could make relatively fast work of it. Fidel Castro would have a much more difficult time going to Guatemala to knock La Voz del CID or Radio Caiman off the air. So, even if a "real" clandestine by Andrew's standards came on the air with a beam toward the USA, it is probable that its schedule would be somewhat irregular, unless it were operated by somebody like the Soviet Union. I think that both Mike and Andrew are making interesting points. We are actually exploring a fine grey area between the pirate and clandestine station categories. It seems to me that the Voice of Tomorrow does represent a revolutionary political force, even if its numbers may currently be small in the United States. The Free Radio One example is somewhat more murky. Comments on all of this from other A*C*E members are quite welcome.

THANKS!

Our loggings turnout was a little light this month, but if the rest of you were half as busy as I have been over the last 30 days, I can understand this. We made up for the relatively low volume of reporters with some high quality contributions! Thanks go to Gerry Dexter (Wisconsin), Don Bishop (South Carolina), Mike Hardester (Okinawa), Andrew Yoder (West Virginia), and George Zeller (Ohio). Next month we hope to hear from YOU by February 17 for the March Clandestine Profile!

Veried Response

your center for QSL information and comment

John T. Arthur, proprietor
RD #1, Box 15A
Belfast, NY 14711

...with a little help from my friends and Staff Reporters Mark Pierce and Bud Wooten. VR is electronically transmitted to A*C*E Hdq on or before the 24th of each month. Please send your input and comments to the above address or leave them in the [P]ersonal Mail section of the ANARC TBBS prior to the 18th. Your active participation in the form of reports, suggestions or constructive criticism is solicited.

*"We're not going to try to control what our people
read and say and think."
--Jimmy Carter*

What's News:
the media report

Here's a very inexpensive way to get a wide variety of voice effects: the Zube Tube. This is a relatively new and simple idea that contains no electronics. Just think - \$10 audio effects and no parts to wear out! All the time you save trouble-shooting can be spent in more productive ways, figuring out new ways to use your Zube Tube. They retail at some toy stores for \$9.95. [via Steve Sachs]

According to the latest flyer, Radio Shack has put their Deluxe Stereo Mixer on sale. The mixer, normally retailing for \$119.95, has three mic inputs and two selectable inputs for either tape decks or turntables, pan pots for position adjustment, twin illuminated VU meters AND runs on 120VAC so you don't need to spend more money on a power-pack. You'll need this mixer (#32-1200) if you want to "chain" the #32-1100 jobs for extra inputs. Sale price is \$69.95 through Feb 17th, and you can lay-away at the sale price. [direct]

A few months ago the New Yorker Magazine ran a three part series on Electromagnetic Radiation, which covered all sorts of things from outright RF from radio and TV to computer terminals and even electric blankets. The series ran in the June 12, 19 and 26, 1989, issues and promises to be interesting reading. If you look it up, please send VR a xerox. [via Bud Wooten]

For rather complete information on the New York City pirate radio scene, reach for a copy of the Daily News Magazine, Dec 17, 1989, edition. The article, titled "Smokey and the Pirates", consists of excerpts of interviews with Judah Mansbach, local FCC enforcer, and several of the local pirate operators. There's even a listing of stations, mostly using 91.9 FM. Most shocking is the publication of the locations of some of the stations; Mansbach states that 9FM is located "in a two story building on 149th Place, off Northern Blvd in Flushing". If I were Ed Armstrong, I'd move real quickly! The four-page article is complete with an unflattering photo of Mansbach and a nice shot of KPRC's studio which is mislabeled WHOT. [direct]

A good source of information is the ANARC SWL Net, usually hosted by Bob, KW3F. The Net meets every Sunday morning at 10 Eastern Time on 7240 kHz, LSB, and has good coverage of the entire Eastern portion of the nation. The have several 'gateway' stations so non-amateurs can phone in their reports for the Net. George Zeller is a regular participant, and yours truly has been known to call in at times. Check 'em out next Sunday. [direct]

DVS can help you with promotional items! Newest item available are bumperstrips, custom printed for your station, and at reasonable cost too. For full information, send a SASE to: DVS, Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895. [direct]

Clean studio dubs of many Free Radio stations are also available from

DVS for only \$2 per program (cash only). Among the available tapes are Vol., Radio Garbanzo, RNCI, KNBS, WXZR, Radio Deadman and others. Send a good C90 (chrome or metal recommended) and \$2 per show to DVS. And don't forget to tell 'em what ya want. [direct]

Another word about the 1989 Pirate Poll is in order. We solicit your votes for the three Best and three Worst Free Radio stations that you heard last year. Remember that there are two categories: programming and technical, making it possible for you to vote the same station Best in one area and Worst in the other. However, stuffing the ballot box will not help; a relatively new station has sent half a dozen votes signed by everyone from his Grandma to George Bush (except that the White House is at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, not 1100, HV), so please vote only once. We'd like a brief statement along with each choice, too; and best comments will be quoted in the May column when the results are announced. Votes are accepted through the end of March, so get with it and make your voice heard. [direct]

support your club...say you read it in The ACE

Off the Wall....
the rumor center

George Zeller reports what is hopefully the correct address for WRNR: PO Box 32, Cornwall-On-Hudson, NY 12520. Haven't yet heard of anyone succeeding to get a QSL from them, but you might let us know... Rumor has it that WENJ, winner of last year's Pirate Poll, was busted by the menacing NYC FCC office. It is known that they've shut down WHOT, WJPL and WNYS (which operated on 1000 kHz) recently. The info on WENJ was reported on the ANARC SWL Net on 07 Jan. Can anyone confirm?..

A letter from Tim Tromp mentioned that WENJ was "back" but not announcing any maildrop. Seems Jack Beane felt there were some loose lips around, and ducked for a while. The old voice mailbox still works, so if you hear them call: (201) 525-7960 for a QSL... Recent mentions of a "KQRP" do not refer to the well-known operation of a few years ago. Rather it's the new call sign for un-heard KCCR, formerly KNRH. This is a genuine QRP operation - they run one watt on 7405 kHz. If you manage to hear 'em, report via the Wellsville Box... Zodiac Radio repeats their offer to relay programs as well as taped music or even comedy routines. If you have something you'd like to get on the radio, shoot a cassette to ZRadio in care of the Wellsville Box...

A hastily written message was received from Phil Muzik of KNBS, who sez that the station has sent out all of its tan Cannabis 41 fiber cards and has had to verie a few 41m reports on their Cannabis 19 cards. Phil goes on to say that an order for new cards is at the printer right now, and as always your reports are always welcome... If you have something you'd like to sell to a European audience, you might want to contact Radio USA. Mr Blue Sky is arranging a relay on Radio Waves International, a fairly powerful French station, and will advertise your product at a ridiculous rate of US\$2 per 30 secs. Here's an opportunity to open a whole new market in commercial radio with very little competition. Write to RU via the Wellsville, NY, maildrop...

Another New Station:
Action Radio WPEZ

There will soon be another station to listen for in the 41 meterband, Action Radio WPEZ. From a well-equipped studio, WPEZ will broadcast AOR and request music through their Viking II. Announcer AJ Michaels even has a voice-mailbox for the request line - call (412) 551-7392 and tell 'em who and where you are and what you'd like to hear. I don't know how extensive their library is but they do have several tape decks and a CD player along with the phone patch at their disposal so the programming should be pretty tight. The call sign, WPEZ, is to memorialize one of the truly great FM stations, WPEZ in Pittsburgh. Action Radio has done a few tests already, but got some bad information and is now rebuilding their output stage. Keep an ear open in the future, however, 'cause they will be back.

Action Radio WPEZ will be using the Wellsville maildrop for reports.

Be sure to enclose three US first class stamps when you write.

+++ under the door +++

QSL report for: January 1990
Ontario's Bob Ross checks in with a full data cannabis fiber card (#54) from KNBS - 7418 signed by Phil Muzik in about four weeks, a full data tower sheet from Secret Mtn Lab - 7434.3 in about one month, a full data "evolution" sheet from WYMN - 7412 signed by Pirate Jenny in about one month, a full data "wizard" card from Munchkin Radio - 7395 in about one month for a report in DiaLogs, and a full data multi-color hand drawn card (#13) from Voice of the Abnormal in about one month for a report in ACE.

Massachusetts' Nick Grace jumped in with a full data "trial" card from WXZR - 7435 signed by Klaus Kinski in 13 days with info sheet, a full data "watch out" card from WBRI - 7522 signed by Pirate Jack for a report in DiaLogs in 6 days, a "church" card from Radio Caroline - 6215 signed by Johann Masbaach for a religious relay, and two full data cannabis fiber cards from KNBS - 15050 and 7485 signed by Phil Muzik in about two weeks. Phil sed the card for 15050 was the first Cannabis 19 card ever issued.

Massachusetts' Don Spooner finally got a full data sheet from Secret Mtn Lab - 7412 for a July, 1988, broadcast.
[yeh, he sed he had misplaced some reports and appologises for the delay. jta]

Georgia's Bud Wooten warmed up with a green full data card (#33) from East Coast Pirate Radio - 15063 signed by N Tesla in 21 days.

Ohio's ACE columnist George Zeller moved his wife out into the garage so he'd have room for ten (count 'em) full data cards (#166-175) from Radio USA signed by Mr Blue Sky for reports dating back to 1985, and an oversize "crossed swords" card from Secret Society Radio signed by Pirate Jim with a personal letter in 32 days.

Michigan's Tim Tromp hocked a radio for a full data hand drawn "crossed swords" card from Secret Society Radio - 7410 with personal letter in about one month, and a full data tan cannabis fiber card (#90) from KNBS signed by Phil Muzik with a pennant in 15 days. Phil also sent along a studio dub of KNBS #15 (the Xmas show) and #19 (the Hempline) in exchange for a tape of Tim's reception of their 01 Jan test transmission.

Illinois' Steve Sachs sold his kids to protect five full data cards (# 161-165) from Radio USA signed by Mr Blue Sky, a full data "wizard" sheet from Munchkin Radio, a full data yellow "op-art" card from WBRI, and a full data multi-color hand drawn card from Voice of the Abnormal. [Steve sez: kids can be replaced; QSLs can't. jta]

Kansas ACE publisher Kirk Baxter added a multi-color hand drawn full data card (#1) from Voice of the Abnormal, and a letter from WTNU.

Kansas ACE member Don Bishop proudly posted a multi-color hand drawn full data card from Voice of the Abnormal rcvd in about ten days, and a full data cannabis fiber card from KNBS signed by Phil Muzik in about 15 or 20 days.

California ACE member Mike McCrackin got crackin' with a yellow full data card (#123) from Radio USA - 7424 signed by Mr Blue Sky, who sed it was their first report from Sunny Cal.

Ye Olde Editore conned two more full data color photo cards (Miss Scatlett's Test Kitchen and RU Abominable Punk Snowman #183 & 184) from Radio Usa - 7407 and 7463 in 36 and six days, respectively. My seventh and eighth from them.

Best of DX and 73...

DX CLIPBOARD

by: Andrew Yoder
P.O.B. 628
Slanesville, W.V.
25444

Howdy, thins've mighty cold, snowy & icy across the East (and I guess the Midwest, too), so there isn't much to do but tune the ol radio. So the pirates've been on, too. Unfortunately, limitations in receiver selectivity have prevented me from logging much. I guess about the best I've done is hearing WKND. Somehow I keep missing WJDI...

One thing that needs to be cleared up right away is the Hope Radio address situation. At this writing (Dec 20), MJ has not written to me about maildropping. I guess just the fact that he's giving out the old BF address should tell most DXers that it's a fake deal. I'm hoping that MJ will get in touch with me soon, but until then, please dont send your reports here. If you have sent a report, it will be filed in with those sent to me for WBBB, Radio Free Willy, etc. When/if I ever get an address, I'll send the reports out...

I just got a call from Gregg Allinson in NC who sed that he heard from WJDI. JDI sed that another NYC local station, WNYS, was busted and that the Feds were about to come after him. He said that WNYS was an AM station, but I've never heard of'em. Anyone have info on the situation?

Incase you'd like to call w/info or whatever, the number is (304) 496-8410. Please, NO collect calls.

Also, I received a press release from WEND, the Voice of 7405 last month. I forgot to put it in the last DX Clipboard, but since no one seems to have heard the station, I guess it's OK. It says that they plan to "commence sporadic broadcasts on 7405 in the late evenings... sometime in early December." Hopefully, they'll be on soon!

I guess that's all for now, unless some late breaking news comes in

WJPL-FM Nabbed in Brooklyn, New York

Local FM radio in the New York City area may now really suffer with the loss of WJPL on November 6. According to W5YI report, the station was raided by FCC agents AND US Marshalls.

Unfortunately, the report gave little more information on the situation (ie, whether the equipment was confiscated, what the fine was, or any history/information on the station), other than the usual FCC threats.

The WJPL bust is especially controversial after WHOT was busted in July. Then, it was rumored that informants from another station or station(s) turned the location of the WHOT transmitter into the FCC. One of the stations rumored was the WHOT rival, WJPL.

And since additional rumors of revenge had been spreading around the area, the WJPL bust just makes things juicier. Was the FCC tipped off about WJPL from WHOT staff members, or were they actually just caught by the FCC? Talk about pirate radio soap operas; now we just need some steamy romance and love triangles to top it off!

Evidently, some of the "bad vibes" between the stations stem from the lack of FM spectrum space in NYC. Presently, only 1 or 2 frequencies are open. So pirates are forced to fight for their frequencies. I've actually heard reports of violence between the different station managers.

But, as with any rumors, remember to take them just as that, and not as fact. With many conflicting reports coming from that scene, it's difficult to determine what is fact and what isn't. If nothing else, it makes for interesting discussions!

Late breaking info! I just got a call from Nick Grace in MA. According to his files, WNYS operated for at least a year on 1070 kHz with classical music. They claimed to be located 100 miles north of New York City. Their address was: RD 1 Box 191, Elizaville (?), NY 12523. I think I goofed the city name, but the zip's alright. The info came from a 1988 Pop'Com.

I'm gonna cut it a bit short this month; hope to have lots of info for next time, though! Remember to listen and contribute! 73fr

My column didnt make it into ACE HQ last month in time (Thanx to the USPS), so Kirk sez I can make it a "double-column." Unfortunately, little else has happened lately. Oh well...

One nasty piece of news that I received from George Zeller is that WENJ was busted by the FCC (news in Radio World zine from 12/22). They must've been nailed in July, cuz I've seen no reports since. That would also explain why I haven't heard from Jack in months. I don't know if he reads the mail I send him or not. Still, I haven't had any letters returned yet, so if ya want to write him, send the letters to the Slanesville address.

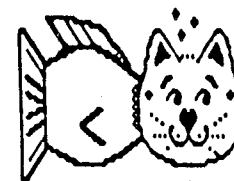
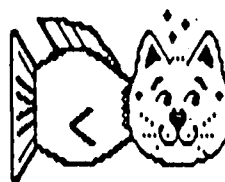
Remember to send your votes in for best stations for 1989--yeah, the Pirate Popularity poll! Some things to consider might be, programming, signal quality, audio, how often they were on, the number of people who heard them, etc. Send yer votes to: RD1 Box 15A, Belfast, NY 14711. Write in today!

Most active stns in 1989: # bdcsts logged in PiPa/ACE:

1. Free R.1	45	7. WBRI	18
2. P.R.Net	35	WENJ	18
3. Hope R.	34	8. CHGO	17
4. R.USA	29	9. VoStench	14
5. Zodiac R.	23	10. RFM	13
6. WKND	20	11. R.Garbanzo	11
WJDI	20	Samurai R.	11

North American stns Hrd in Europe:

1. VoTomorrow	15040	4. East Coast P.R.	15063
2. VoLaryngitis	15016	5. VoNorth	15047
3. Samurai R.	15607		



THE VOICE OF THE EPILEPTIC CATFISH

To: Andrew Yoder

WE CONFIRM YOUR RECEPTION

ON 7445 KCZ

FROM 2106 TO 2117 GTC

ON NOVEMBER 11, 1989

TRANSMITTER: RADIODYNE FELINE 9

POWER: 1200 UNDERWATER WATTS

ANTENNA: 1/4 WAVE CAT WHISKER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR REPORT
LOOK FOR US AGAIN IN
NOVEMBER 1994

HAVANA MOON



HAVANA MOON
117 W. Harrison Building
6th Floor, Suite H-319
Chicago, IL 60605

=====

On the plum in flower
By my eave,
The pale moon hangs
At the dawning hour.
-- Tenro

=====

BULLETIN

0157 UTC Monday, 01-21-90. "Foghorn" observed on the air-to-ground frequency of 6577 kHz. As if AERINC didn't already have enough trouble, what with Numbers transmissions and other types of jammers.

0200 UTC Monday, 01-21-90. The electronic war (?) continues at a highly elevated level as 6577 kHz is bombarded - not only by the "Foghorn", but by a "Buzz Saw Jammer", and the usual 5-D Spanish transmission. Said frequency being rendered totally useless for numerous aircraft in flight.

WAKE UP, State Department!

Exclusive to A*C*E - At some few times during the month of June, 1989, the 5-D Spanish transmission on 6577 kHz was determined to be originating from within a 25-mile radius of Managua, Nicaragua. This information, as usual, from those sources that decline to be identified.

NUMBERS 101, PART 3

Type 3 Transmission Formats

"Atencion 133 00 30" (repeated for several minutes)
"30" (repeated for less than one minute)
xxxxxx xxxxxx . . . (ciphertext or crypt)
"Final" (repeated twice)

The first three digits are the identifier, with the following two digits an unknown. The last two digits before the crypt are the "group count" digits.

To the best of my knowledge, this transmission format is seldom heard - I would be very interested in reception reports from any of you who might encounter it.

And speaking of reception reports, the *IDEAL* report would consist of the Identifier, Group Count and the first three and last 5-digit groups of the crypt. This in conjunction with the usual details regarding frequency, time in UTC, etc. Now, while I realize that this is time consuming and out of the question for most - any of you who would be willing to spend the time would be contributing greatly to Numbers research efforts.

If you listen very carefully to 5-digit and CW transmissions, you'll find that the pause after every tenth group is slightly longer than that between the other groups of the crypt. If you were to record the transmission at 2.4 cm and then play it back at 1.2 cm, you would notice the pause following the tenth group to be very prominent.

The number of groups is twelve per minute in 5-digit Spanish. The very same for 4-digit English and Spanish. The only exception I've noted in this cadence is in the live, or non-computer generated 5-digit Spanish transmissions.

LADIES DAY AT THE A*C*E

Traditionally, our hobby has been dominated by the male of the species. Look what we've been missing! Well it's time to put those days behind us, guys - because the female of the species has much to offer this hobby and profession.

- First - They look a hell of a lot better than we do.
- Second - Their skill at ferreting out numbers transmissions is unparalleled.
- Third - They just don't get involved in the stupid in-fighting that so many of us 'self-proclaimed experts' so often find ourselves mixed up in. More on in-fighting in a later edition of The A*C*E.

Now I am fully aware that my stance on this issue will result in a hasty - and as usual, ill-prepared - meeting of NOG (National Organization of Guys) to immediately banish HM from said organization for ever and ever, amen.

But that's okay, guys. I'm sure that NOW (National Organization of Women), while perhaps skeptical at first, will eventually welcome me with open arms.

And just for starters, here are just a few of the things YLs have contributed to the hobby -

- . Potato-Chip, a DC-based femme, who joins us every Saturday night on-line, is well versed in the ins and outs of the ECPA.
- . Ira's Mom - who has her own shortwave radio (which she does NOT share with Ira) - indicates that she has discovered a relationship between Radio Havana Cuba and some few Numbers transmissions. How about sharing the info, Mom?!
- . Thyss - a California-based YL who also joins us on Saturday nights. Though only a beginner, she soaks up knowledge faster than one of Rosie's paper towels!
- . And lest we forget - there's the highly esteemed Lani Petit, whose shoes I am now attempting to fill. Where are you Lani? The high heels are bothering my feet - and the guys at NOG are giving me a rough time.
- . There are Pop'Comm's maven of Radio Nostalgia, Alice Brannigan, Monitoring Times' Gayle Van Horn and Jean Baker and Sharon Churcher and Trudy Miller of Penthouse.
- . There's Linda Reneau (KALUKM) and Joyce Sawtelle of 73 Amateur Radio Magazine and Carol Johnson of Portal Communications.
- . And then there's the indefatigable Kristin Kaye - of "Bits, Bytes & BBSs" - who has lots and lots of the shadowy types who lurk about the Virginia countryside in a tizzy!

Let's welcome them with open arms, guys - no pun intended, of course!

AND NOW . . . Since this is Ladies Day At The A*C*E, reception reports, for the most part, will be those of Kristin Kaye, of UeL fame (UeL - no relationship to PTL) - with an emphasis on Slavic (?) Numbers transmissions - preceded by musical tones.

4032 kHz 0600 UTC AM 5-D Slavic kk/NY

4881 kHz 0000 UTC AM 5-D Slavic kk/NY
 0100
 0200
 0300
 0500
 0530
 0600 (This parallel to 4032 kHz transmission above)
 1900
 2100
 2200

To my knowledge, no one has ever positively identified this language. Probably not Russian, says kk - no guttural sounds - Czech? Serbo-Croatian? We're just not sure. Give a listen - this one is there practically every hour on the hour through the day and night. Given propagation issues this one is very curious, indeed.

RACING WITH THE MOON

John Fulford of FL and Zel Eaton of MO report Numbers transmissions in the 32 MHz range. Some years back, Numbers transmissions were reported in the 40 MHz range. I reported this in very small detail in "Uno, Dos, Cuatro."

Strange things happening these evenings on 6840 kHz. Maintain a close watch. 6802 kHz, after a long absence, once again active, and don't forget the mystery of 6835 kHz - shared by Air Force 1, Air Force 2, 5-D Spanish Numbers, and now - by a major electronics manufacturer which has just been granted an experimental license for this frequency. Talk about strange bedfellows . . .

HM's ELECTRONIC RECEPTION REPORT

To: HAVANAMOON
 From: John Brewer
 Subject: Numbers Intercepts
 Date: Sat, 23-Dec-89 08:37:52 PST
 Lines: 45

Date	Time	Freq/Mode	Comments
15 DEC Z	0145z	6.824.8 AM	YL #s, interesting because of the fact that another YL station (#s), was either mixing with, or being transmitted from the background. The station appeared to have a different YL "voice" and different numbers being "read." Both stations disappeared after the "primary" YL station left the air. Format was "Atencion, Atencion, Atencion" followed by #s groups, repeated, then numbers groups till end of transmission.

CONTRIBUTORS CORNER

John Fulford (WA4VPY), Zel Eaton, Jim Vickonoff, Ira Martin, Ira's Mom, Don Bishop, Mark Pierce, John Brewer and Kristin Kaye.

HAVANA MOON'S COSMIC SPOTLIGHT

This month's Cosmic Spotlight shines on Ira's Mom. Mom will be receiving a one-year subscription to Electronics Handbook, published by C&E Hobby Handbooks, courtesy of Havana Moon and "Los Numeros."

Next month's winner - to be selected at random, of course - will be the recipient of an original tape recording of one of the most unusual radio intercepts I have ever heard. More about that below! Get those intercepts in!

* * * * *

There's been a truly peculiar transmission moving about the spectrum lately, best described as a "Foghorn". Well, could it be that the "Foghorn" is a new and sophisticated jamming device?

One recent Saturday Night while "Numbers Chasing" with the Amigas on "Los Numeros" we came across the "Foghorn" on 7920 kHz at 0500 UTC. Signal strength was very powerful, ranging from well over S9 at my QTH to S7-S8 on the West Coast. And that's not all. Underneath the "Foghorn" was a PAB (phonetic alphabet station) transmitting five character phonetic groups! I noted the signal strength of the Numbers Station to be around S7. Reception was extremely weak in San Diego, and not heard at all in San Jose. This (these) transmissions continued until approximately 0540 UTC. After the phonetic transmission ended, the "Foghorn" continued to transmit.

The phonetic groups were broadcast by a YL using the standard international phonetic alphabet but with decidedly non-standard pronunciation.

Example: LEE-MAH (Lima) NO-VEM-BEER (November)
 EEN-DI-YAH (India) U-NEE-FORM (Uniform)

Use of non-standard pronunciation is an indication that the receive-site may use a voice-recognition system.

Back to the "Foghorn" - it was later found jamming 6925.5 kHz, a known KKN50 frequency. It was learned the following day that a complaint was filed by the State Department as a result of this interference.

A new form of jammer? Who? And why? Any thoughts?

An interesting sideline from Harry Helms - Harry says KKN50's marker transmission was greatly enhanced by this mysterious "Foghorn" with nomadic tendencies. Any ideas, folks? It's got the self-appointed experts confused - this, much to their chagrin! And if you think this group is confused, you ought to see the tizzy the professionals are in . . .

HAVANA MOON'S PREDICTIONS FOR 1990

- Ira Martin will become romantically linked to a world-famous female rock star. This will lead to Mr. Martin's photo being plastered on the front page of many issues of The National Inquirer.
- Harry Helms sightings will become more frequent than Elvis sightings as he is seen scouring McDonald's dumpsters for Covert Corner material. I beg of you, folks - don't let this happen - YOU're in control! Get Harry some reports before he has to move on to Burger King!
- The first Numbers transmission reception report received via a tooth filling will be logged by The A*C*E. The sender of this report will immediately receive a crushed and empty Tecate can. Contents of said can will have been disposed of in HM's own unique style (hic).
- John Fulford will get his check or money order off to The A*C*E for a membership - provided he is not molested by any more Mafia Dons.
- Ira's Mom will set The A*C*E record for Numbers reception reports while her son frolics on the Riviera with the above mentioned YL.

. And last - but certainly not least - Ed Anger, of Weekly World News fame - will be verbally attacked by Andre Provacateur. Look out Ed - Provacateur's World has no room for you! And you're going to be madder than Fred the Fed with no E-Mail system to invade! And if you haven't yet picked up a copy of The Weekly World News - don't start now!

Well, folks - the intercept database is ready for distribution. It'll be available in two formats - one print-out by time, and another by frequency. And for you Commodore users out there, a diskette-version will be made available at a later time, if demand warrants.

Here's what you'll need to do: Send a check or money order in the amount of \$3.00 made payable to The A*C*E to the Club post office box. Include a stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope with your request. PLEASE - no requests to my Chicago address directly. Distribution methods will be worked out with Kirk. I'll assume all costs so that the entire \$3.00 will go to The A*C*E Treasury.

The first run is now in its final stages, and barring any unforeseen computer snafus, will be ready a week to ten days after this issue of The A*C*E reaches you.

HAVANA MOON RECOMMENDS

If you haven't done so already - be sure to pick up a copy of the February, 1990 edition of Popular Communications Magazine, and join me and John Fulford, for a "Magical Mystery Tour" of Miami's mysterious KKN39. See it as a "KKN Station" has never before been seen. And I mean that quite literally, folks!

And contact Grove Enterprises for shipping and pricing information about the all new "Shortwave Directory." This 1990 edition contains a new and revised Numbers section, courtesy of Yours Truly.

George Zeller's 1990 edition of "The Pirate Directory" - soon to be available from Tiare Publications - with all new information!

Special thanks to "Fred the Fed", The "Los Numeros" On-Line Amigas, and Olivier Schmidt of The Intelligence Newsletter for a recent profile of HM and Harry Helms. Thanks, also, to Sweden Calling DX'ers, Fred Maia's W5YI Report and Wayne Green of 73 Amateur Radio Magazine for recent mentions of "Los Numeros" and Portal Communications.

Hope to see all of YOU on "Los Numeros" soon. And by the way, you'll find The A*C*E Digest and Veried Response there - courtesy of Kirk Baxter and John Arthur!

And don't forget, guys - introduce a YL to the hobby. You'll be glad you did. And as the legendary Gene Nobles, of WLAC fame used to say - "Titillate your sensibilities."

We miss you - somewhere in time, Gene. And as far as you guys at NOG are concerned, you can . . .

See you at the Denny's on the Beach. Time now for a Tecate and . . .

On second thought, folks, I just might give up Tecate. You see, while on the patio just now, I saw a huge, furry creature with beady eyes running up and down my Cable TV line - I just may switch to Kool-Aid - SharkleBerry Fin.

Havana Moon y Amigas
33469

PUBLISHER'S COMMENTS

I would like to thank you for your continuing support of the ACE! We are getting a lot of new subscriptions and we appreciate the renewals of our current members. This helps us to expand and to allow us to bring you the best bulletin for the pirate and clandestine radio listener.

For our non-U. S. readers, I have a request. Please submit your subscriptions and renewals, if possible, in U. S. Currency or in U. S. funds drawn on a U. S. bank. Many foreign banks have correspondent relationships with U. S. banks that facilitate such transactions. Ask your bank. We have been having problems getting checks collected drawn on Canadian banks even though they have been in U. S. funds. It has taken up to six weeks for us to receive credit for these amounts and our local bank is indicating there may be a fee for collecting the funds. The ACE treasury is not in a position to pay bank fees! I appreciate your help in this matter and value your subscription.

There are several worthwhile radio meetings in the upcoming months. The SWL Winterfest will be held in Kulpville, PA on February 23-25, 1990. Several ACE members have indicated they will be attending. *** The Dayton Hamfest, held in Dayton, OH April 27-29, 1990, is a fascinating event for those interested in radio, especially ham radio. Tickets, which are \$10, may be obtained by writing to: Dayton Hamfest Tickets, POB 2205, Dayton, OH 45401. *** The National ARRL Convention will be held in Kansas City, MO June 7-10, 1990 at Bartle Hall. Watch the pages of QST for further information and registration materials. If any ACE members plan on attending, a mini-ACE convention could be arranged. *** The 1990 ANARC Convention will be held in Virginia Beach, VA on September 15-16, 1990 in conjunction with a large local computer and radio fest. Further details will be printed here as they become available.

Pirate Radio Directory 1990 Edition by George Zeller

This new 1990 edition covers some 100 pirate radio stations which were active on shortwave during 1989.

Includes information on frequencies used, times heard, program formats, ID announcements, announcer names, QSL addresses and more.

Plus special section on how to hear and QSL pirate radio broadcasters. Already recognized as THE book on pirate radio.

Illustrated.

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Tiare Publications P.O. Box 483 Lake Geneva, WI 53147	

ASSOCIATION OF CLANDESTINE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS
P. O. Box 11201
Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201

The A*C+E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C+E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C+E is for you!!

Our Editors...

John Arthur Varied Response
Kirk Baxter Dialogs
Harry Helms Covert Corner
Havana Moon The Los Numeros Update
Andrew Yoder DX Clip Board
George Zeller Clandestine Profile

ANNUAL DUES (includes 1 yr subscription to The ACE)

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